

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/818,208

Examiner

James S. Wozniak

Applicant(s)

CASE, ELIOT M.

Art Unit

2655

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/8/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 11,12,14-16 and 18-20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 3/27/2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached  
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)                                   |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>8/17/2004</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment   |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                          |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

W. R. YOUNG  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

**Detailed Action**

***Response to Amendment***

1. In response to the final office action from 4/2/2004, the applicant has submitted an amendment, filed 7/8/2004, canceling Claims 1-10 and adding Claims 11-20.

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jeremy Curcuri on 8/17/2004.
4. The application has been amended as follows:
  - Cancel Claim 13
  - Cancel Claim 17

*Allowable Subject Matter*

5. Claims 11, 12, 14-16, and 18-20 are allowed.

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach nor fairly suggest:

A digital voice synthesis method utilizing a digital voice library, having a set of playback rules, capable of concatenating first and second digital voice waveforms based upon an ending sonic feature of the first waveform and a starting sonic feature of the second waveform in combination with the following:

- The specific steps of determining, manipulating, and synchronizing the sonic features of the two waveforms which include any combination of a noise, impulse or tone, and wherein the process of synchronizing includes switching between features on the peaks of tones, impulse of an impulse, or anywhere within the noise such that not more than fifty percent of the duration of the noise is cut.
- The step of synchronizing during waveform overlap that includes multiplexing for alternating rapidly between a first and second waveform.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

*Conclusion*

7. The claims have been remapped as follows for patent publication purposes:

Claim 11 has been remapped to Claim 1.

Claim 12 has been remapped to Claim 2.

Claim 14 has been remapped to Claim 3.

Claim 15 has been remapped to Claim 4.

Claim 16 has been remapped to Claim 5.

Claim 18 has been remapped to Claim 6.


Claim 19 has been remapped to Claim 7.

Claim 20 has been remapped to Claim 8.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James S. Wozniak whose telephone number is (703) 305-8669 and email is James.Wozniak@uspto.gov. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays, 8:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doris To can be reached at (703) 305-4827. The fax/phone number for the Technology Center 2600 where this application is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the technology center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

  
W.J.R. YOUNG  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Best Available Copy

Application/Control Number: 09/818,208  
Art Unit: 2655

Page 5

James S. Wozniak  
8/17/2004



W. R. YOUNG  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Best Available Copy